The support tools could include standard scheduling aids, scoring and preference models, simulation aids for managers and designers, selected analysis, design, test generation, documentation, and program production tools. The specific requirements of the system would of course be determined by the group involved in the development process, now all classified as users.

Conclusions

It is recommended that a software development information system be considered by any organization that is involved in developing or maintaining software systems. This recommendation also applies to organizations that rely predominantly on packaged systems, although some life cycle phases would be less prominent in this case.

A careful analysis of this approach would be beneficial regardless of whether or not the system is actually implemented. Such an analysis would identify the requirements of each group, would necessitate a definition of system phases, milestones, or measurable achievements, would bring about a review of available support tools, would determine what the groups consider to be the relevant properties of system projects, and would underscore the vital roles played by managers, developers, and users in the system development process. In view of the rising costs of system development and the increasing number of computer applications being developed, the proposed system may be found to be quite feasible. •jsm

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